



For Immediate Release:
January 15, 2008
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NEWS ADVISORY

Utah's Conference for Everyone Affected by Birth Defects

What: The March of Dimes Utah Chapter and the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) are sponsoring Utah's third annual birth defects conference. "Birth Defects: A Lifelong Journey for Children and Families" will provide support, information, and networking opportunities for those affected by birth defects, and features Rachel de Azevedo Coleman, singer/songwriter, mother of two children born with special needs and creator of the popular Signing Time™ educational video series.

Why:

- More than 1,400 Utah infants are born with a serious birth defect each year (one baby every six hours)
- Utah has one of the highest birth rates in the nation
- Utah ranks highest in the U.S. for babies born with facial cleft birth defects

When: Saturday, January 19, 2007
12:00-5:00 p.m.

Where: Spencer F. and Cleone Eccles Health Education Building
26 South 2000 East / Room #1700
University of Utah campus (south of University Hospital, watch for signs)

Who: Rachel Coleman
CEO, Two Little Hands Productions and creator of Signing Time™

Dr. Harper Randall, Medical Director
Bureau of Children with Special Health Care Needs, UDOH

Dr. Dean Byrd, Psychologist, President of Thrasher Research Fund

Gina Pola-Money, Director of Utah Family Voices Support Center

Kathy Peterson, Utah Down Syndrome Foundation

Staff of the Utah Birth Defects Network

Parents of children with birth defects

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